

Assateague Island National Seashore

News Release

March 21, 2005 For Immediate Release

Contact: Robert Fudge (410)641-1443 x~227

Assateague Island National Seashore Proposes to Upgrade Visitor Use Facilities

Assateague Island National Seashore, Berlin, Maryland – Superintendent Mike Hill announced that Assateague Island National Seashore is proposing several improvements across the northern portion of the island, including the replacement and relocation of the North District Entrance and Ranger Stations; the construction of an observation platform; new toilets and showers at the Bayside Campground and day- use area; as well as other showers, toilets, and water lines to service the upgraded facilities. These facilities would provide an enhanced visitor experience while allowing the NPS to minimize its impact to the delicate and valuable island environment.

An Environmental Assessment/Assessment of Effect (EA) will be completed to develop and analyze potential alternatives for these improvements. The EA is expected to be available for public review and comment in late summer of 2005, and construction would begin soon thereafter. In order to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act and other federal and state regulations, the park is soliciting comments from interested agencies, groups, and individuals. Superintendent Hill invites the public to direct any concerns or comments about the project to Robert Fudge via email (Robert_Fudge@nps.gov) or in writing (Assateague Island National Seashore, 7206 National Seashore Lane, Berlin, MD, 21811).